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## FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

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### AUSTRALIA.

#### Sydney—Examination of Rats for Plague Infection.

The following information was taken from bulletins issued by the department of health of New South Wales:

During the two weeks ended May 27, 1911, 6,229 rats were destroyed. Of this number 1,941 were examined for plague infection. No plague-infected rats were found.

The last case of human plague was reported May 29, 1909.

The last plague-infected rat was found April 25, 1910.

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

#### Cholera at Gratz.

The following information was transmitted June 2 to the Department of State by Minister Kerens at Vienna:

On May 28 a case of cholera was bacteriologically verified in the person of a post office official at Gratz, who had previously made a brief stay at Trieste and Venice. He was taken ill at Venice with vomiting and diarrhea. On his return to Gratz, May 23, he was apparently well, but on May 24 was again taken ill and died May 29. The case was verified as Asiatic cholera on necropsy and by bacteriological examination. On June 1 a second case of cholera was verified in the person of a member of the family of the first patient who had been in contact with the case and was under observation when attacked by the disease.

During the year 1910 isolated cases of cholera occurred in Austria, but the infection was shown to have been imported, and the disease did not recur.

### CHINA.

#### Amoy—Plague.

Acting Asst. Surg. Bonthius reports May 30:

During the week ended May 27, 31 cases of plague with 10 deaths were reported in the city of Amoy.

#### SWATOW—Plague in Consular District.

Consul Williams reports May 23:

Plague is reported to be epidemic at many localities in this consular district, including Chao-ying, Hweilai, Chao-chow-fu, and Kit-ying. The city of Swatow remains free from infection. Passengers and merchandise arriving from the interior are inspected under the requirements of the port sanitary regulations recently adopted by the customs and consular officers. Plague appears to be endemic in many parts of the district. At Chao-ying the disease has appeared regularly every year since 1901. In 1910 the total number of deaths